

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/683,239

Examiner

Joshua D. Campbell

Applicant(s)

GREFENSTETTE ET AL.

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to Appeal Brief filed 4/24/2006.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-20.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

DETAILED ACTION

1. This action is responsive to communications: Appeal Brief filed on 04/24/2006.
2. Claims 1-20 are pending in this case. Claims 1, 9, and 12 are independent claims.
3. The rejection of claims 1-20 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) has been withdrawn due to persuasive arguments presented in the Appeal Brief filed.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

4. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

The application has been amended as follows:

Please replace the paragraph in the section titled "Cross Reference To Related Applications" with the following paragraph:

Priority is claimed from U.S. Provisional Application No. 60/1311,857, filed August 13, 2001. Cross-reference is made to U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/543,962, entitled "Meta-Document And Method Of Managing", and U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/928,619 entitled "Fuzzy Text Categorizer" (now U.S. Pat. No. 6,868,411), which are both hereby incorporated herein by reference. In addition, cross-reference is made to the following U.S. Patent Applications that (a) are concurrently

filed herewith, (b) are assigned to the same assignee as the present invention, (c) are incorporated in this patent application by reference, and (d) claim priority to U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 60/311,857, filed August 13, 2001: U.S. Patent Application Serial No 09/683,238, entitled "Meta-Document Management System With Personality Identifiers"; U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/683,240, entitled "Meta-Document Management System With Transit Triggered Enrichment" (now U.S. Pat. No. 7,117,432); U.S. patent application Serial No. 09/683,236, entitled "Meta-Document Management System With User Definable Personalities." (now U.S. Pat. No. 6,732,090); U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/683,241, entitled "System For Propagating Enrichment Between Documents" (now U.S. Pat. No. 6,928,425); U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/683,235, entitled "System For Automatically Generating Queries" (now U.S. Pat. No. 6,778,979); U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/683,242, entitled "Document-Centric System With Auto-Completion " (now U.S. Pat. No. 6,820,075); U.S. Patent Application Serial No 09/683,237, entitled "System With User Directed Enrichment And import/Export Control" (now U.S. Pat. No. 7,133,862).

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

5. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Regarding independent claims 1, 9, and 12, none of the references, either singularly or in combination, teach or suggest to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention the amended features, "...wherein said enriching recognizes and annotates entities in the electronic document content related to the enrichment

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theme of the personality identified by the personality identifier.” The examiner notes that while customizing document content to a personality in itself is not novel (See Examiner Referenced Patents), but in combination with the other limitations of the method steps and system functions of the independent claim (i.e. wherein said enriching recognizes and annotates entities in the electronic document content related to the enrichment theme of the personality identified by the personality identifier) the limitations of claim 1 are considered novel, and unobvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made in view of the prior art of record.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled “Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance.”

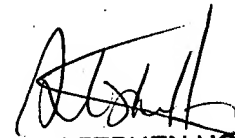
Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Joshua D. Campbell whose telephone number is (571) 272-4133. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F (7:30 AM - 4:00 PM).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner’s supervisor, Stephen Hong can be reached on (571) 272-4124. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

JDC
May 21, 2007



STEPHEN HONG
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER